

Virology

Adenovirus Culture (see Respiratory Virus Culture)

Central Nervous System (CNS) Virus Culture Isolation/Identification

Specimen Requirements: CSF or Central Nervous System specimen in Microtest Transport Media, received within 48 hours of collection.

Turn Around Time: Cultures are monitored for 2 weeks prior to a negative report. Positive results are telephoned to the submitter.

NOTE: CNS specimens for virus isolation are screened for the presence of the following commonly isolated viruses: Herpes Simplex Virus, Enterovirus (including Echovirus and Coxsackie A & B) and Adenovirus

CPT Code: 87252 (culture)

Price: \$38.50

87253 (Virus ID) Each add'l ID

Price: \$30.00

Transport Temperature: 2-8°C

Chlamydia spp. Culture Isolation/Identification

Specimen Requirements: Specimen in Microtest Transport Media received within 48 hours of collection.

Turn Around Time: 3 to 6 working days. Positive test results are telephoned to the submitter.

CPT Code: 87110

Price: \$38.50

Transport Temperature: 2-8°C

CMV (see Cytomegalovirus)

CNS Virus Culture (see Central Nervous System Virus Culture)

Cytomegalovirus (CMV) Culture Isolation/Identification

Includes both traditional tube culture and spun vial technology

Specimen Requirements: Urine, BAL, or Bronchial Washings in Microtest Transport Media, Heparinized Blood, Biopsies, received within 48 hours of collection.

Turn Around Time: Spun vial results available within 2 to 3 working days. Cultures are monitored for 1 month before reporting as negative. Cultures of tissue samples are monitored for 2 months prior to a negative report. Positive results are telephoned to the submitter.

CPT Code: 87252 (culture)

Price: \$38.50

87254 (spun vial)

Price: \$ 29.00

Total Price: \$ 67.50

Transport Temperature: 2-8°C

Enterovirus Culture (see Enteric Virus Culture)

Enteric Virus Culture Isolation/Identification

Specimen Requirements: Stool or Rectal Swab in Microtest Transport Media, received within 48 hours of collection.

Turn Around Time: Cultures are monitored for 2 weeks prior to a negative report. Positive results are telephoned to the submitter.

NOTE: Enteric specimens for virus isolation are screened for the following commonly isolated viruses: Enterovirus (including Echovirus and Coxsackie A & B), Adenovirus, and Herpes Simplex Virus

CPT Code: 87252 (culture)
Price: \$38.50

87253 (Virus ID) Each add'l ID
Price: \$30.00

Transport Temperature: 2-8°C

Herpes Simplex Virus (HSV) Type 1 and 2 Culture Isolation/Identification

Specimen Requirements: Specimen in Microtest Transport Media, received within 48 hours of collection.

Turn Around Time: Cultures are monitored for 7 days prior to a negative report. Positive results are telephoned to the submitter.

CPT Code: 87252 (culture)
Price: \$38.50

87253 (Virus ID)
Price: \$30.00

Transport Temperature: 2-8°C

Herpes Simplex Virus (HSV) Type 1 and 2 Direct Detection by DFA

Specimen Requirements: Slide prepared from vigorously scraping the base of a fresh lesion with a Dacron swab. Smear specimen over a small (dime) sized circle on the microscope slide. Avoid excess blood contamination of the specimen. Fix slide with acetone prior to submission.

Turn Around Time: Performed each working day. Results are telephoned to the submitter.

NOTE: Traditional cell culture should also be performed. See Herpes Simplex Virus (HSV) Culture Isolation/ID

CPT Code: 87274 (HSV1 DFA)
Price: \$12.00

87273 (HSV2 DFA)
Price: \$12.00

Transport Temperature: Ambient

Herpes Zoster Virus Culture (See Varicella Zoster Virus Culture)

Influenza A and B Culture (See Respiratory Virus Culture)

Influenza A Sub-typing by Immunofluorescence

Specimen Requirements: Influenza A virus isolate from cell culture. All Influenza A isolates are reflexed to typing for seasonal H1N1 2009 and H3 and H1 subtypes

Turn Around Time: Performed as needed. Results are telephoned to the submitter.

CPT Code: 87253 (Virus ID)
Price: \$30.00

Transport Temperature: 2-8°C

Influenza Isolate Susceptibility Testing and Characterization

Specimen Requirements: Influenza A isolate in cell culture fluid. The laboratory routinely selects significant isolates for susceptibility testing and characterization.

*Testing is performed at no cost for epidemiological purposes.

Referred to the Centers for Disease Control, Atlanta, Georgia

Turn Around Time: 6 to 8 weeks

Price: Fee Waived*

Transport Temperature: 2-8°C

Lymphogranuloma venereum (LGV) Culture (see Chlamydia spp. Culture)

Measles Culture (see Rubeola Culture)

Mumps Culture Isolation/Identification

Specimen Requirements: Saliva, Urine in Microtest Transport Media, received within 48 hours of collection.

Contact the laboratory if molecular testing is requested.

Turn Around Time: Cultures are monitored for 2 weeks prior to a negative report. Positive results are telephoned to the submitter.

CPT Code: 87252 (culture)

Price: \$38.50

87253 (Virus ID) Each add'l ID

Price: \$30.00

Transport Temperature: 2-8°C

Parainfluenza Types 1 - 3 Culture (See Respiratory Virus Isolation)

Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Culture (See Respiratory Virus Culture)

Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Direct Detection by Direct Fluorescence Assay

Specimen Requirements: Nasal washings or Nasopharyngeal (NP) swab in Microtest Transport Media.

Turn Around Time: Performed each working day. Results are telephoned to the submitter.

CPT Code: 87280

Price: \$24.25

Transport Temperature: 2-8°C

Respiratory Virus Culture Isolation/Identification

Specimen Requirements: Throat or NP Swab, Nasal or Bronchial Washings, BAL in Microtest Transport Media, received within 48 hours of collection.

Turn Around Time: Cultures are monitored for 2 weeks prior to reporting as negative. Positives results are telephoned to the submitter.

NOTE: Respiratory specimens for virus isolation are screened for the presence of the following commonly isolated viruses: Adenovirus, Influenza A, Influenza B, Parainfluenza Type 1, 2, and 3, Respiratory Syncytial Virus, Enterovirus (including Echovirus and Coxsackie A & B), and Herpes Simplex Virus.

CPT Code: 87252 (culture)

Price: \$38.50

87253 (Virus ID) Each add'l ID

Price: \$30.00

Transport Temperature: 2-8°C

RSV (see Respiratory Syncytial Virus Direct Detection or Culture)

Rubeola (Measles) Culture Isolation/Identification

Specimen Requirements: Throat or NP Swab in Microtest Transport Media, received within 48 hours of collection.

Turn Around Time: Cultures are monitored for 2 weeks prior to reporting as negative. Positive results are telephoned to the submitter.

CPT Code: 87252
Price: \$38.50

87253 (Virus ID) Each add'l ID
Price: \$30.00

Transport Temperature: 2-8°C

Varicella Zoster (VZV) (Herpes Zoster) Virus Culture Isolation/Identification

Specimen Requirements: Specimen, usually vesicular fluid, in Microtest Transport Media, received within 48 hours of collection.

Turn Around Time: Cultures are monitored for 1 month prior to a negative report. Positive results are telephoned to the submitter.

CPT Code: 87252 (culture)
Price: \$38.50

87253 (Virus ID) Each add'l ID
Price: \$30.00

Transport Temperature: 2-8°C

Varicella Zoster Virus (VZV) Direct Detection by Direct Fluorescence Assay

Specimen Requirements: Slide prepared from vigorously scraping the base of a fresh lesion with a Dacron swab. Smear specimen over a small (dime) sized circle on the microscope slide. Avoid excess blood contamination of the specimen. Fix slide with acetone prior to submission.

Turn Around Time: Performed each working day. Positive results are telephoned to the submitter.

NOTE: Traditional cell culture should also be performed. See Varicella Zoster (Herpes Zoster) Virus Culture Isolation/ ID.

CPT Code: 87290
Price: \$24.25

Transport Temperature: Ambient

Virus Culture Isolation/Identification

Specimen Requirements: Specimen in Microtest Transport Media, received within 48 hours of collection.

Turn Around Time: Cultures are monitored for 2 weeks prior to a negative report. Positive results are telephoned to the submitter.

NOTE: Specimens for virus isolation are screened for the presence of the following commonly isolated viruses: Adenovirus, Influenza A, Influenza B, Parainfluenza Type 1, 2, and 3, Respiratory Syncytial Virus, Enterovirus (including Coxsackie A & B and Echovirus) and Herpes Simplex Virus.

CPT Code: 87252 (culture)
Price: \$38.50

87253 (Virus ID) Each add'l ID
Price: \$30.00

Transport Temperature: 2-8°C

Viral Isolation/Culture Collection and Transport

Microtest Collection Kits, containing swabs and transport media, are supplied by the laboratory. Store the kits at room temperature. The expiration date is printed on the collection kits. This same media is used for Chlamydia isolation.

Autopsy/Biopsy Specimens	Place a small piece of the fresh or frozen tissue into Microtest Transport Media. Specimens in formalin are not acceptable.
Bronchial Alveolar Lavage (BAL) /Bronchial Washings	Mix an equal portion of the BAL or bronchial washing with Microtest Transport Media.
Buffy Coat	Collect 2 tubes (7 - 10 mL each) of heparinized blood.
Cerebral Spinal Fluid	Mix an equal portion of the CSF with Microtest Transport Media.
Endocervical Specimens	Place swab from cervix in Microtest Transport Media, break off at the score line, and tightly cap.
Eye (Conjunctival) Specimens	Place swab from conjunctiva in Microtest Transport Media, break off at the score line, and tightly cap.
Lesion Swabs/Scrapings	Place swab from fresh lesion into Microtest Transport Media, break off at the score line, and tightly cap.
Nasal Washes/Aspirates	See detailed instructions under Amplification Test Collection. Introduce 1-2 mL of sterile saline into the nasopharyngeal cavity, aspirate, and mix with an equal volume of Microtest Transport Media.
Nasopharyngeal Swab	See detailed instructions under Amplification Test Collection. Use the flexible shaft small dacron swab to collect the specimen. Place swab into Microtest Transport Media, trim shaft below the cap line, and tightly cap.
Rectal Swab	Place swab into Microtest Transport Media, break off at the score line, and tightly cap.
Saliva	Mix an equal portion of saliva with Microtest Transport Media.
Stool	Emulsify a small portion of the stool (smaller than a pea) in Microtest Transport Media.
Throat Swab	See detailed instructions under Amplification Test Collection. Place swab into Microtest Transport Media, break off at the score line, and tightly cap.
Urethral Swab	Place swab into Microtest Transport Media, break off at the score line, and tightly cap.
Urine	Mix an equal portion of urine with Microtest Transport Media.
Vesicular Fluid	Aspirate fluid from fresh unbroken vesicle and place into Microtest Transport Media.

Make certain tube is labeled with patient identifier and collection date. Place each specimen container in an individual biohazard zip lock bag containing absorbent material and seal bag tightly.

Fill out standard laboratory request form completely and place in the outer sleeve of the biohazard zip lock bag. Do not place the request form inside the biohazard zip lock bag.

Specimens must be kept cold from the time they are collected until the time they are processed by the laboratory. Shipment must be done promptly, so that specimens are received by the laboratory within 48 hours of collection. Specimens must be shipped in a cold condition, usually by the use of cold packs and Styrofoam containers. Mailers will be returned for reuse. Transport by mail or courier.

***Chlamydia* spp. Isolation/Culture Collection and Transport**

Microtest Collection kits, containing swabs and transport media, are supplied by the laboratory. Store at room temperature. Expiration date is printed on the collection kit. This same collection media can be used for viral isolation specimens.

Autopsy/Biopsy Specimens	Place a small piece of the fresh or frozen tissue into Microtest Transport Media. Specimens in formalin are not acceptable.
Endocervical Specimens	Wipe the cervix with one of the swabs in the collection kit prior to sample collection to remove mucus and WBC. Insert the second swab into the cervical os to collect cells from the transitional zone. Rotate the swab vigorously in firm contact with the endocervical surface to facilitate the collection of columnar epithelial cells. Place swab in Microtest Transport Media, break off at the score line, and tightly cap.
Eye (Conjunctival) Specimens	Place swab from conjunctiva in Microtest Transport Media, break off at the score line, and tightly cap.
Nasal Washes/Aspirates	Introduce 1-2 mL of sterile saline into the nasopharyngeal cavity, aspirate, and mix with an equal volume of Microtest Transport Media.
Nasopharyngeal Swab	Use the flexible shaft small dacron swab to collect the specimen. Place swab into Microtest Transport Media, trim swab so that the shaft is below the cap line, and tightly cap.
Rectal Mucosa	Place swab into Microtest Transport Media, break off at the score line, and tightly cap.
Throat Swab	Place swab into Microtest Transport Media, break off at the score line, and tightly cap.
Urethral Swab	Patient should not have urinated within one hour of collection. Insert a small swab into the urethra and hold to absorb body fluids. Rotate the swab several times to obtain columnar epithelial cells, then withdraw. Place swab into Microtest Transport Media, break off at the score line, and tightly cap.

Make certain tube is labeled with patient identifier and collection date. Place each specimen container in an individual biohazard zip lock bag containing absorbent material and seal bag tightly.

Fill out the standard laboratory request form completely and place in the outer sleeve of the biohazard zip lock bag. Do not place the request form inside the biohazard zip lock bag.

Specimens must be kept cold from the time they are collected until the time they are processed by the laboratory. Shipment must be done promptly, so that specimens are received by the laboratory within 48 hours of collection. Specimens must be shipped in a cold condition, usually by the use of cold packs and Styrofoam containers. The mailers will be returned for reuse. Transport by mail or courier.